



COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION

STRENGTHENING THE PROFESSION OF SOCIAL WORK
Leadership in Research, Career Advancement, and Education

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RE: Council on Social Work Education's position on Michigan State House Bill 5040

To Whom It May Concern:

The Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) is deeply concerned about the consequences of the possible passage of HB 5040. The bill has serious implications for the accreditation of social work programs at the baccalaureate and master's level in the state. The intent of the bill is the authorization of a practice guideline which is in direct violation of the code of ethics of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW). CSWE **accreditation standards (Educational Policy 2.1.2)** require programs to teach compliance with the NASW Code as a component of "ethical practice". This bill poses an unreasonable choice for social work programs. Either they comply with **accreditation standards** and teach the NASW Code in which case their curriculum defies state law or they teach compliance with state law and jeopardize their accreditation and hence qualification for licensure their graduating students.

Sincerely,

Stephen Holloway, Ph.D.

Director,

Office of Social Work Accreditation